

EARLY TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS

From the Travail of Infancy to the Sunshine of Prosperity.

THE BEE'S FORMER HOMES.

A Mighty Struggle Crowned with Success—The Annual Expenses of the Bee—Circulation of Daily and Weekly.

The first copy of THE BEE was issued from a two-story frame house, which up to within two months stood on the southeast corner of Dodge and Twelfth streets. The building was owned by the Redfield brothers.

WHERE THE BEE WAS BORN, JUNE 19, 1871.

spacious, well lighted hallway, or the vestibule that separates it from the stereotyping room. The magnificent proportions, and superb light and ventilation, impress one upon the entrance above all other things.

The greater part of the south side of the composing room overlooks the exquisite white walls of the court in the center of the building. Through the large plate glass windows glimpses of the magnificent proportions of this delicately molded and finely finished work of art are enjoyed.

In connection with the composing and stereotyping rooms, there are also a wash room, and ample toilets. These rooms are at the west side of the building, adjoining the stereotyping room, and, in point of arrangement and finish, can not be excelled.

The Stereotyping Room. The stereotyping room which connects with the composing room through a vestibule 8x12, is by all odds the most superb newspaper stereotyping shop in America. It is superior in every respect to any room designed for this purpose.

Facts About the Building. The construction of the building was begun as stated elsewhere, on October 1, 1887, by the Bee Publishing company, which at that time owned the ground.

Branch Offices. The Bee maintains branch offices in New York, Washington, Chicago, Lincoln and Council Bluffs. The latter was the pioneer branch, having been established in 1881.

terially increasing its facilities and without replenishing the job office to any great extent. In 1879 the wooden structure on the lot adjoining the Farnam street building on the east was leased, and finally the lot was bought by The Bee Publishing company from Milton Rogers for \$5,000.

The Lincoln office was started in 1882. Al Egan is now in charge of the office, which is located at 1029 P street.

The Chicago office is located in room 567, Rookery building, in charge of Mr. A. G. Richardson.

Washington office, 513 Fourteenth street, is in charge of Mr. Perry S. Heath.

The New York office, rooms 14 and 15, Tribune building, is managed by Mr. A. G. Richardson.

Its Birth, Early Struggles, and Marvellous Growth. The history of THE BEE is a panorama of stirring events and thrilling incidents. It is the history of a mighty struggle against adverse circumstances, formidable opposition, and obstacles which, during infancy, seemed almost insurmountable.

The Daily Bee made its first appearance on the 19th of June, 1871. It was a two-page, 12x18 sheet, five columns to a page and had the appearance of a theater programme. In fact the programme of the Academy of Music was used as the cover of the first page. Five hundred copies were

struck off at Redfield Brothers' job office, of which about 500 were laid upon the seats at the Academy of Music, and the remainder were distributed free in the stores and hotels.

Attention is directed to the Special Telegraphic Despatches of THE OMAHA BEE, containing the latest intelligence up to the hour of going to press.

The First Approach. To newspaper editors was made early in the succeeding month by transforming the theatrical dodger into a four page sheet.

The First Home of the Bee was in the Redfield building, a frame which stood on the southeast corner of Twelfth and Dodge streets.

On the 6th of July, 1872, THE BEE was again enlarged, this time to double its size, and the publication office removed to 510 (old number) Twelfth street, two doors south of the original office.

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never been equaled, much less excelled by any paper in Chicago or St. Louis. Since that time illustrated supplements and trade reviews have become distinctive features of THE BEE, and have done more than any one else to advertise and proclaim the prosperity of Omaha to the world.

The Second Important Event in the history of THE BEE occurred on the 1st of February, 1878, when the Bee Publishing company was perfected and the building and grounds, plant and good will of the paper turned over to it.

On a Solid Foundation. A mortgage debt of \$18,000 was liquidated, and a balance of ready cash placed in the treasury to meet immediate demands.

One of the Hardest Struggles which THE BEE experienced in getting to the front was with the telegraph companies.

These improvements in machinery, together with the reconstruction of the building, entailed an expenditure of \$30,000.

The phenomenal growth of THE DAILY BEE is shown by the following statement of circulation, taken from the books of the office:

Table showing circulation statistics for THE DAILY BEE from 1880 to 1888, including daily and weekly figures.

Table showing the cost of operating THE BEE from 1880 to 1888, including expenses for printing, postage, and other costs.

The weight of paper required for printing THE BEE amounted to 1,559,259 pounds in 1888.

The Bee Publishing covers an area of 192 feet by 122, or an aggregate ground dimension of 17,424 feet, making a total floor area of 125,300 feet.

It is equalled by no other structure of its class in its imposing architecture, its distribution of light and ventilation, its elegance of finish and perfect fire proof construction.

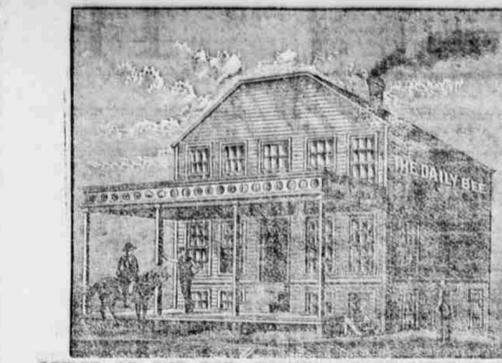
The Third Great Epoch in THE BEE'S career began September 28, when its perfecting press and a complete stereotyping plant were put in operation.

The paper which is run through the press from a continuous roll, must first be dampened, otherwise it will not take a good impression.

The process of stereotyping is comparatively new in the West. Although the invention is a century and a half old, it was not introduced into the United States until 1818.

Up to this time the New York Tribune could truthfully boast of being the largest and most complete newspaper office building. It now ranks next to THE BEE.

The New York Tribune occupies a building covering a ground area of 125,000 feet, including its annex and outside court.



OFFICE OF THE BEE, BURNED DOWN JUNE 11, 1872.

room, stereotyping room, and complete editorial room on the same floor. Up to this time the New York Tribune could truthfully boast of being the largest and most complete newspaper office building.

The third largest newspaper building in the country is now in process of erection by the Pioneer Press of St. Paul. It has a ground area of 9,000 feet and is to be twelve stories in height, making a total floorage of 108,000 feet.

The new ten-story building of the San Francisco Chronicle covers an irregular plot of ground with an area of 6,925 feet and a total floorage of 69,250 feet.

The Chicago Tribune, which occupies the only fire-proof newspaper building in Chicago, covers a lot 120 1/2 feet by 140 feet, 9,350 feet; total floor area, 45,800 feet.

The building of the Baltimore Sun, at Baltimore, covers a lot 120 feet by 4,070 feet, and an area on all floors of 30,350 feet.

The Louisville Courier-Journal is a five-story building with a frontage of 165 feet by 93 1/2 feet, making a total ground area of 14,372 feet. The total floor space is 71,960 feet. The building is not fire-proof.

The Evening Post, New York, has a nine-story fire-proof building with a frontage of 165 1/2 feet and a ground area of 16,511 feet. The ground area is 6,521 feet and ground floorage 58,689 feet.

The Philadelphia Record building is the most elegantly constructed and finished building in the country. It is strictly fire proof and fronts on two opposite streets.

Retrospective. Few editors and publishers have survived the trials and tribulations inseparable from the journalism. The elder Bennett established and lived to see the New York Herald at the front rank of American journalism.

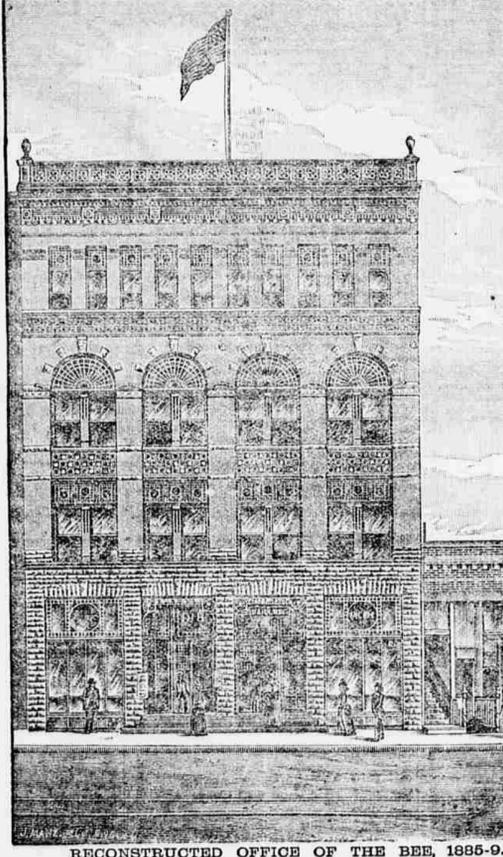
Horace Greeley founded the New York Tribune and enjoyed its success before his death. The World drifted from hand to hand until Pulitzer took it off the shoulders of Jay Gould and made it a phenomenal success.

Before Dana and Jones gave them "a habitation and a name." The Chicago Times and Tribune were not founded by Storey and Mead, but by men who had studied them the recognized organs of western thought and energy.

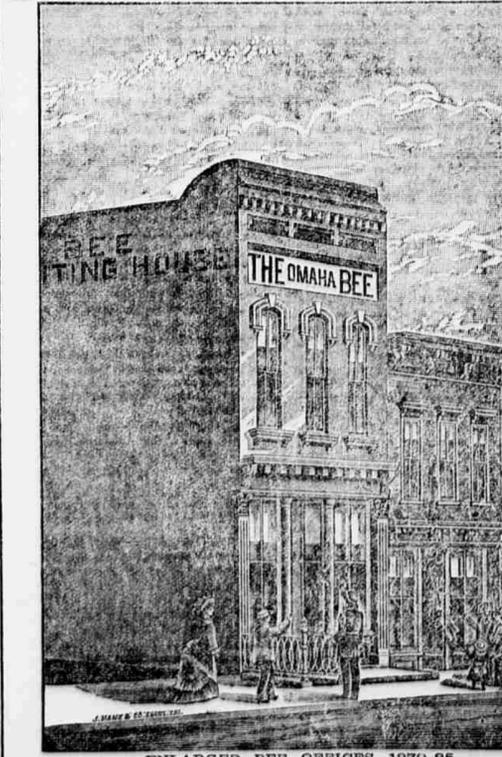
The San and the Times had several owners before Dana and Jones gave them "a habitation and a name." The Chicago Times and Tribune were not founded by Storey and Mead, but by men who had studied them the recognized organs of western thought and energy.

The Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette and the Enquirer have changed ownership several times. On the Pacific coast the San Francisco Chronicle was founded by the De Youngs. Charles De Young lived to see a power for good in California, and it is still controlled by the surviving brother, Michael.

There are really less than a dozen influential newspapers to-day whose original owners lived to see their rise from struggling infancy to heights of commanding influence and power, and THE BEE is one of them.



RECONSTRUCTED OFFICE OF THE BEE, 1886-9.



ENLARGED BEE OFFICES, 1879-86.

BEER was compelled to pay from \$500 to \$800 per month for its service. The exactions of the telegraph companies became unbearable, and a persistent and successful effort was made to compel recognition of THE BEE as one of the live newspapers of the west.

Feared and Outspoken on all vital issues of the day, the paper was equally vigorous in advancing the material interests of Omaha and Nebraska. At the very outset THE BEE took up and championed the cause of the industrial classes and advocated their rights when all other papers "bent the pregnant hinges of the knee."

The Third Great Epoch in THE BEE'S career began September 28, when its perfecting press and a complete stereotyping plant were put in operation. The press is known as the Scott perfecting press, the invention of Walter Scott, a Scot who, in 1825, was granted a patent for the patent to the well-known firm of H. Hoe & Co., for \$100,000.

The paper which is run through the press from a continuous roll, must first be dampened, otherwise it will not take a good impression. The machine for wetting it is a simple one. An iron axle is run through the core of the roll of paper, and the roll is suspended in bearings at one end of the machine, so as to revolve free.

The process of stereotyping is comparatively new in the West. Although the invention is a century and a half old, it was not introduced into the United States until 1818. It did not meet with much success until the late 1840s, when it was introduced into the United States by the inventor, Thomas N. Moore.

Another New Departure, the publication of an illustrated supplement and annual review of the trade, manufactures, etc., of the city and county for 1874, was a costly and laborious undertaking, one which has